

IN THE CLAIMS:

No claims are added, amended, or cancelled.

14. (Previously presented) A gateway telecommunication device, comprising:

a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;

a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;

means for initiating and receiving calls for a user located in a home or office location where said device is also located;

means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;

means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network;

a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network that is separate from a calling device that a caller at a remote location is using, and the server is acting on behalf of the caller at the remote location; and

means for responding to said request by connecting said second port directly to said caller at the remote location via the packet based telecommunication network,

whereby the gateway telecommunication device can serve as part of a distributed gateway system between said packet based telecommunication network and said circuit switched telecommunication network for said caller and whereby the device increases the capacity of said distributed gateway system.

15. (Previously presented) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising a third port to connect a conventional telephone apparatus via said device to said first port.

16. (Previously presented) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising a mechanism to automatically connect said third port directly to said first port in the event of power failure.

17. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication utilizing both a circuit switched telecommunication network and a packet based telecommunication network, comprising:

multiple gateway telecommunication devices each device having

a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;

a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;

means for initiating and receiving calls for a user located in a home or office location where said device is also located;

means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;

means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network;

a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network that is separate from a calling device that a caller at a remote location is using, and the server is acting on behalf of the caller at the remote location; and

means for responding to said request by connecting said second port directly to said caller at the remote location via the packet based telecommunication network,

whereby the gateway telecommunication device can serve as part of a distributed gateway system between said packet based telecommunication network and said circuit switched telecommunication network for said caller and whereby the device increases the capacity of said distributed gateway system.

18. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, further comprising:

gateway location servers connected to said packet based telecommunication network, said gateway location servers being adapted to receive a request from a first gateway telecommunication device connected to said packet based telecommunication network for telecommunication with a specified telephone apparatus on said circuit switched telecommunication network, and further being programmed to select a second of said gateway telecommunication devices to serve as a gateway between said networks for said requested connection, and to forward said request to said second gateway telecommunication device via said packet based telecommunication network.

19. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, wherein the packet based telecommunication network comprises the Internet.

20. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 18, wherein the packet based telecommunication network comprises the Internet.

21. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 18, wherein each of said gateway telecommunication devices includes means for registering with said gateway location servers the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said packet based network and said circuit switched network.

22. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 21, wherein each of said registered gateway telecommunication devices includes means for automatically notifying said gateway location servers when its PSTN connection is Off Hook so it temporarily is not available to serve as a gateway between the packet based network and the circuit switched network.

23. (Previously presented) A gateway telecommunication device according to claim 14, further comprising means for registering at said server the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said first port and said second port.

24. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 17, further comprising means for registering at said server the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said first port and said second port.

27. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication utilizing both a circuit switched telecommunication network and a packet based telecommunication network, comprising:

- multiple gateway telecommunication devices each device having
 - a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;
 - a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;
 - means for initiating and receiving calls for a user located in a home or office location where said device is also located;
 - means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;

means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network; and

a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network that is separate from a calling device that a caller at a remote location is using, and the server is acting on behalf of the caller at the remote location; and

a gateway location server connected to said packet based telecommunication network having information of the location of said gateway telecommunication devices, said gateway location server being adapted to receive a request from a caller anywhere on said packet based telecommunication network for telecommunication with a specified telephone apparatus on said circuit switched telecommunication network, and further being programmed to select one of said gateway telecommunication devices to serve as a gateway between said networks for said requested connection, and to forward said request to said one gateway telecommunication device via said packet based telecommunication network.

28. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 27, wherein the packet based telecommunication network comprises the Internet.

29. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 27, wherein each of said gateway telecommunication devices includes means for registering with said gateway location servers the availability of said device to act as a gateway between said packet based network and said circuit switched network.

30. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 29, wherein each of said registered gateway telecommunication devices includes means for

automatically notifying said gateway location servers when its PSTN connection is Off Hook so it temporarily is not available to serve as a gateway between the packet based network and the circuit switched network.

31. (Previously presented) A system for telecommunication according to claim 27, wherein the circuit switched telecommunication network comprises a wireless cellular telecommunication network.

32. (Previously presented) A gateway telecommunication device comprising:
a first port to connect said device to a circuit switched telecommunication network;
a second port to connect said device to a packet based telecommunication network;
means for initiating and receiving calls for a user located in a home or office location where said device is also located;
means for said user to interface with said device without using a telecommunication network;
means in said device for executing requests from said user to initiate calls to parties on the circuit switched network or the packet based telecommunication network; and
a single channel gateway means in said device for establishing a path between said first port and said second port inside said device in response to a request from a server on the packet based telecommunication network that is separate from a calling device that a caller at a remote location is using, and the server is acting on behalf of the caller at the remote location, for use in a system for telecommunication having a circuit switched telecommunication network, a packet based telecommunication network, a plurality of said gateway telecommunication devices, and a gateway location server connected to said packet based telecommunication network having information of the location of said gateway telecommunication devices, said gateway location server being adapted to receive a request from a caller anywhere on said

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packet based telecommunication network for telecommunication with a specified telephone apparatus on said circuit switched telecommunication network, and further being programmed to select one of said gateway telecommunication devices to serve as a gateway between said networks for said requested connection, and to forward said request to said one gateway telecommunication device via said packet based telecommunication network,

whereby the gateway telecommunication device can serve as part of a distributed gateway system between said packet based telecommunication network and said circuit switched telecommunication network for said caller and whereby the device increases the capacity of said distributed gateway system.